

under the FOIA. When a substantial issue has been raised, the DoD Component may seek additional information from the source of the information and afford the source and requester reasonable opportunities to present their arguments on the legal and substantive issues involved prior to making an agency determination. When the source advises it will seek a restraining order to take court action to prevent release of the record or information, the requester shall be notified, and action on the request normally shall not be taken until after the outcome of that court action is known. When the requester brings court action to compel disclosure, the submitter shall be promptly notified of this action.

(b) The coordination provisions of this paragraph also apply to any non-U.S. Government record in the possession and control of the Department of Defense from multi-national organizations, such as the North American Treaty Organization (NATO) and North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), or foreign governments. Coordination with foreign governments under the provisions of this paragraph shall be made through Department of State.

§518.66 File of initial denials.

Copies of all initial denials shall be maintained by each DoD Component in a form suitable for rapid retrieval, periodic statistical compilation, and management evaluation. Records will be maintained in accordance with AR 25-400-2.

§518.67 Special mail services.

DoD Components are authorized to use registered mail, certified mail, certificates of mailing and return receipts. However, their use should be limited to instances where it appears advisable to establish proof of dispatch or receipt of FOIA correspondence.

§518.68 Receipt accounts.

The Treasurer of the United States has established two accounts for FOIA receipts. These accounts, which are described below, shall be used for depositing all FOIA receipts, except receipts for industrially-funded and non-appropriated funded activities. Components

are reminded that the below account numbers must be preceded by the appropriate disbursing office two digit prefix. Industrially-funded and non-appropriated funded activity FOIA receipts shall be deposited to the applicable fund.

(a) Receipt Account 3210 Sale of Publications and Reproductions, Freedom of Information Act. This account shall be used when depositing funds received from providing existing publications and forms that meet the Receipt Account Series description found in Federal Account Symbols and Titles. Deliver collections within 30 calendar days to the servicing finance and accounting office.

(b) Receipt Account 3210 Fees and Other Charges for Services, Freedom of Information Act. This account is used to deposit search fees, fees for duplicating and reviewing (in the case of commercial requesters) records to satisfy requests that could not be filled with existing publications or forms.

APPEALS

§518.69 General.

(a) If the official designated by the DoD Component to make initial determinations on requests for records (IDA) declines to provide a record because the official considers it exempt, that decision may be appealed by the requester, in writing, to a designated appellate authority. The appeal should be accompanied by a copy of the letter denying the initial request. Such appeals should contain the basis for disagreement with the initial refusal. Appeal procedures also apply to the disapproval of a request for a waiver or reduction of fees, and for no record determinations when the requester considers such a response adverse in nature. Appeals of denials of Office of the Secretary of Defense and Joint Staff documents or fee waivers may be sent to the address in appendix B, paragraph 2a to this part.

(b) Appeals of adverse determinations made by Army IDAs must be made through the denying IDA to the Secretary of the Army (Attn: General Counsel). On receipt of an appeal, the IDA will—